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11 June 1985

Executive Registry
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NOTE FOR: DCI

As stated

VIA:

DDCI

FROM:

Executive Director

SUBJECT:

DCI Seminar

You mentioned some time ago that you would like to kick off the first in a series of seminar sessions we plan to hold with a select group of high potential officers over the next year in an attempt to broaden their management perspective. The technique we have in mind is to highlight individual employees who have perceived a need or an opportunity, and are aggressively trying to do something about it. The seminar will also serve to associate us--management--with some of our most creative people, both in the audience and on the stage.

The first session will be held on 18 June, from 1600-1800, in Room 1A07, Headquarters. The guest speaker is Bill Donnelly, presently the Director of the DA's Office of Information Technology. He will focus on how one man's belief that the DO's Information Management Staff (IMS) could better support operations was made a reality. Bill previously was Director of IMS.

I	have	attached	some	points	you	might	want	to	draw	on	for	your	opening
remarks	5 .												

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Attachment:

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- As all of you know, I have been much taken with the ideas in Tom Peter's "Excellence" book.
- I am also convinced, as are many of you, that we don't do as much as we might to widen the perspective of our future leaders, or to share our internal successes.
- A couple of weeks ago, we decided to do something specific about this. With this session, we are establishing an informal forum designed to share some real success stories in resolving tough management and leadership problems and in moving our organization and its people forward.
 - -- The focus will not be on the problems, but rather on the solutions.
 - -- We do not intend to duplicate the topics considered in the Mid-Career or SIS elective programs, nor is this the forum for briefings on how our offices or divisions work.
 - -- The idea here is to explore with actively engaged managers the elements contributing to their success in resolving a variety of important problems or taking advantage of perceived opportunities.

 Topics will be chosen to deal with a wide range of issues. We will
discuss, for example, topics like how we turned SAFE around, how OS is
accommodating the changing American scene, or how and why IMS' role and
mission was changed and upgraded,
Suggestions are welcome.

- -- In short, this is an excellent opportunity for all of us to broaden our perspectives by hearing how some of our colleagues from across the Agency and from outside have successfully met some real management and leadership challenges.
- We are an Agency of specialists, and our traditional directorate upbringing affords too few of you an opportunity to develop a global view of Agency problems.
- We don't do much in the way of preparing ourselves to address issues of common concern.
- With technology forcing changes on us every day, and with the growing diversity of the problems on the intelligence platter, our management problems are becoming much more complex.
- The more complex the problems, the more interdependencies are involved.

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- In addition, we are on the threshold of seeing a whole new generation of senior managers take over here.

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- Our new SISers will be directing a lot of young officers, the result of our recent growth and the fact that as many as percent of our current GS-14s and 15s will also be eligible for retirement by 1987, according to the OTE study.
- This forum or program, then, is an attempt to better prepare ourselves in this regard, to broaden our management perspective by means of a continuing dialogue with real practioners talking about live cases, to expand our management horizons by stimulating thinking about the whole range of responsibilities we face.
- Its success will depend on how well we prepare and on how well you respond.
- As noted in your invitations, we plan to do this about once per month, with one of the deputies chairing each session.
- If it turns out to be a waste of time, we'll end it.
- You're probably wondering, given the relatively small size of this group, what criteria were used in determining who would participate.
 - -- The answer is simple. In the Deputies' view, you are well equipped to contribute to and derive benefit from these sessions, and apply whatever lessons are learned from it.
 - -- We plan to invite you to perhaps a dozen sessions, then to put together another group.
- This program is yours to make the most of--we welcome suggestions for topics or speakers.
- Very pleased today to have as our initial speaker, Bill Donnelly, who will talk to us about his successful efforts to make the DO's Information Management Staff an even greater contribution to the Agency's work. I'm looking foward to his presentation as much as you are . . . Bill.